



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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Aug 7, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Silverio DiFazio

CANADIAN CITIZEN SENTENCED ON ECSTASY CHARGES

A Canadian citizen was sentenced today in federal court in Detroit for possessing nearly 39,000 ecstasy pills, announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Brian Moskowitz, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Receiving the sentence was Silverio DiFazio, 42, of Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

United States District Judge Robert Cleland sentenced DiFazio to 48 months in custody, followed by two years of supervised release.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "In a day and age when the known effects of Ecstasy are profoundly harmful, today's sentence for bringing almost 39,000 pills into the US should be a strong deterrent against such dangerous drug trafficking. In addition, those drug traffickers who would seek to bring their nefarious wares across our borders should be

aware that ICE agents specifically trained in sophisticated means for detecting the introduction of contraband into our country will be there to stop them.”

DiFazio pleaded guilty to the offense in April of this year. The information presented to the court at the time of the plea established that on November 27, 2006, DiFazio entered the United States through the Detroit/Windsor Tunnel. U.S. Customs Officers discovered 39,000 ecstasy pills hidden in the spare tire of the rented pick-up truck driven by DiFazio. The pills were destined for delivery and further distribution within the Detroit metropolitan area and had an estimated street value in excess of \$780,000.

The case was investigated by special agents of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Gardey.